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# Curran, Edward: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (1985): Correspondence 02

Lawrence A. Uzzell

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LAWRENCE A UZZELL  
Former Special Assistant to the Director, Edward A. Curran  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

"...down there underneath is  
that permanent structure that  
is resisting everything you're  
doing."

-President Ronald Reagan

Dear Friend of the President:

Ed Curran tried his best, as a Reagan appointee, to  
eliminate one part of the federal bureaucracy.

But Ed Curran's plea to abolish NIE never got a fair  
hearing before President Reagan. Bureaucrats friendly to the  
man who fired Ed made sure of that.

Yes, the permanent structure won. Ed Curran was fired  
on June 10, 1982, as director of the National Institute of  
Education (NIE).

As his top assistant, I resigned immediately, in order to  
seek your help in trying to get through to President Reagan.  
Remember, Ed Curran never did get past the "permanent structure."

I do not believe President Reagan is ready to yield to the  
permanent structure, the perpetual bureaucrats who seek total  
domination over his Administration.

That is why I ask you to sign and mail the enclosed postcard  
to President Reagan.

The bureaucrats may have cut down Ed Curran. They may have  
buried his message to President Reagan and then dismissed him.

But I am certain they can not bury or dismiss thousands of  
postcards, letters, and mailgrams from an angry and aroused Reagan  
constituency appealing directly to the President himself.

So please sign and mail the postcard immediately. Or send  
a letter or a mailgram. Thank you.

While I was on the Reagan transition team, I came to the

(over, please)

Not Printed at Government Expense

Address National Institute of Education Project Lawrence A. Uzzell Chairman  
An emergency project of Public Advocate 2233 Wisconsin Ave. N.W. 20007

conclusion that the NIE should be eliminated.

NIE is an agency of the Department of Education.

You may recall President Reagan had originally intended to abolish the Department of Education.

Earlier this year, an organization called Public Advocate presented over a quarter of a million signed petitions at the White House in support of his program, as the President was moving forward.

But thanks to bureaucratic maneuvering led by Department of Education head Terrel Bell, the campaign never got past first base.

As the year wore on, Terrel Bell was successful in persuading the President's top advisors that abolishing the Department of Education would be "politically unrealistic."

Then in May of 1982, President Reagan asked, in a nationally televised speech to the American people, for suggestions on how he could cut the size of the federal government.

Ed Curran responded by writing a letter to the President, suggesting that his own agency, NIE, be abolished.

Ed outlined his reasons, as you can see from the enclosure.

But despite the urgency, Ed and I are not sure if the President ever saw his letter. It is still a closely guarded bureaucratic secret.

And when Ed showed it to his own superior, Terrel Bell, he was asked this incredible question:

"How can you head an agency which you think should not exist?"

Does Terrel Bell think Ronald Reagan was elected to perpetuate and strengthen the bureaucracy? Whose side is he on anyway?

Terrel Bell's action in dismissing my boss and squashing the initiative to abolish NIE, should be grounds for dismissal.

Terrel Bell is the principal reason for the failure in 1982 of President Reagan's bold effort to abolish the Department of Education.

Terrel Bell has put loyalty to his Department, the bureaucrats within it, and the special interests which defend it, ahead of his loyalty to President Ronald Reagan.

Terrel Bell has silenced a man who should instead be commended for unselfishly calling for an end to the agency he headed.

Terrel Bell is a part of the permanent structure dedicated to the sabotage of the Reagan presidency.

(More--)

A later investigation of "FREESTYLE" brought a frank admission: our children's attitudes are "deeply rooted in the family" -- and the NIE bureaucrats don't like that one bit.

So by their own admission, "FREESTYLE" is an open attack on what parents are teaching their children.

But there's even more.

NIE bureaucrats gave our tax dollars to a sex educator who pushed for a special section in children's libraries devoted to sex education.

This must be the ultimate in their idea of a "permissive society" -- where our children can just walk in with the open approval of the school and look at any sex literature these bureaucrats think is OK.

Perhaps that's how they want to bring up their own children -- but the NIE bureaucrats want to force this on our children too. And using our own tax dollars.

~~Radicals are winging seminars to instruct the NIE~~ -- they got over five million dollars from NIE during 1980. And they are still getting our tax dollars today.

One of those taxpayer funded grants taught women how the bureaucrats think you should cope with stress and pressure: by "joining women's (radical) groups," "smoking a joint" (marijuana), or "divorcing my husband."

In addition to promoting anti-family values and corrupting our children, these self-proclaimed "social engineers" are wasting millions of our tax dollars.

For instance, CENREL, a social engineering laboratory in St. Louis, spent \$750,000 on taxpayer-paid junkets -- including trips to Egypt and Disney World.

~~Ed Curran and I fought these entrenched, ultra-liberal NIE bureaucrats during 1981 and 1982.~~

Finally, Ed Curran suggested NIE be abolished. While I can't show you an exact copy of the letter Ed tried to get to President Reagan, I can do the next best thing, since I helped draft that fateful letter.

I have enclosed a digest of the original letter as I recall it being written, and now you can see the "crime" of Ed Curran, for which he was dismissed.

Isn't it incredible that the head of a federal agency, a Reagan appointee, could fail to get past the bureaucracy and to the President?

But the impossible has indeed happened.

Ed isn't, of course, the only loyal Reagan appointee who has led to advance the President's objectives. There are many others.

(More--)



But they have paid dearly -- being attacked with no warning, subjected to a blistering, withering cross fire from entrenched bureaucrats and their allies inside and outside of government.

The loyal Reagan appointees are outnumbered, outmanned and outgunned here in Washington, D.C.

Remember that for every loyal Reagan appointee there are hundreds of members of the permanent structure surrounding him, watching, waiting for the one mistake or misstep.

And now the remaining Reagan loyalists have been seriously shaken after what has happened to Ed Curran and me.

Have the bureaucrats succeeded in making an example out of Ed Curran, who tried to uphold the Reagan mandate and eliminate an agency?

Or with your help is the lesson from this, stand up when you are right. And you will get the support you need. Stand up and be counted, for there are thousands who will help you make the case to the President.

~~Will you help me break the bureaucracy, or will you let their action stand, unchallenged?~~

Will you help me appeal to President Reagan to abolish the NIE, or will you remain silent and let the bureaucrats win?

Will you let a good man, Ed Curran, be cut down and silenced, or will you help champion his view right now?

And finally, will you join me in seeking the dismissal of master-bureaucrat, Terrel Bell, member of the permanent structure?

If you will help me, please send the enclosed postcard directly to President Reagan. I have been assured by Reagan loyalists inside the White House that word of a massive outpouring of mail will indeed reach President Reagan personally.

And if you are with me all the way, then can you write on the bottom of the postcard, "Terrel Bell should be fired!"

Finally, I must tell you there is one more thing I urgently need you to do. Whether or not I am able to generate the massive outpouring of mail to the White House depends on you.

~~For I need your dollars~~ to continue this emergency effort to break the bureaucracy, reach the President, abolish the National Institute of Education, and fire Terrel Bell.

Quite simply if you can not help me with your dollars, my efforts must stop. My resignation and the dismissal of Ed Curran will have been in vain.

For to speak out with all the anger and all the facts at my command, will take a massive sum of money.

This cause has already received tremendous help and

assistance from Public Advocate, which has worked all year long to try and abolish the Department of Education.

But I have been told by Public Advocate Executive Director Eugene Delgaudio that if you can not contribute at least \$15, then he may have to suspend this emergency campaign within the next two weeks.

I do not fault Eugene and Public Advocate for this decision, for they have already been most generous in helping me, giving this urgent program an initial budget of some \$14,500 to begin with.

But whether or not I can now continue is up to you.

Whether I can reach my goal and break through past the bureaucrats to President Reagan is up to you.

Please take out your checkbook right now, and write out a check for \$15 to Public Advocate, and mail it to me right away.

In case you're wondering, I'm not asking for that check for myself. I did not resign my position in government to work for Public Advocate.

Rather, my purpose is to get past the permanent structure which the President has said is a major obstacle to his programs.

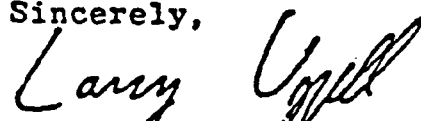
So please send the postcard to President Reagan. And write your check for \$15 to Public Advocate immediately. If you can send a larger contribution for \$25, \$50, \$100, or even \$1000 or more, I will be grateful. Every dollar will be a tremendous help to me in achieving my goal.

If you and I can not get NIE abolished, then every bureaucrat agency is safe, and every bureaucrat can breathe easy.

You and I must not fail, or Ed Curran's courageous sacrifice will have been in vain.

The bureaucrats haven't really been challenged so far. With your support they could be in for the biggest fight of their lives. I will look forward to hearing from you this week. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lawrence A. Uzzell, former  
Assistant to the Director,  
National Institute of Education

P.S. ~~Abolishing the NIE is one battle in the war to abolish the Department of Education. This is a "must-win" battle for loyal supporters of President Reagan.~~ I pray you are one. And that you will act. Or else, my resignation will have accomplished nothing.